

"As one small candle may light a thousand, so the light here kindled hath shone unto many, yea in some sort to our whole nation."

- William Bradford

# Pilgrim News

*San Diego Colony of Mayflower Descendants*

Vol. 2, Issue 1, Governor William "Budd" Leef

November 2025

## Governor's Message

**Hello San Diego Mayflower Colony Members and Friends:**

I hope everyone has had an enjoyable Summer, with perhaps some travels and family get togethers thrown in. Is it really the Fall season? These months seem to go by so quickly. And the Calendar – how does that fill up so fast?

Well, it's definitely the Fall season and that means that Thanksgiving is just around the corner. (HmMMM? It's 89deg. as I write this!) Anyway, we're now in the final planning stages for our Colony's November Mayflower Compact Meeting. Our guest speaker is actually no guest – he's one of OUR OWN! Neil Greenwood, and he has an interesting past.

Neil was born in England, just a 'stones-throw' from Windsor Castle. But that's not the subject of his presentation. He must also have the

'History Gene', and later in life began looking into his family's past. Lo and behold, a 10 th GG-Father by the name of Thomas Rogers was



Silver City, with our son, Matt & fiancé

uncovered. So, Neil's journey discovering his deep American Roots will be the topic. For some of us knowing you had a Mayflower Ancestor that was known for generations (officially or via lore), but for some it was a surprise. Thank you, Neil, for preparing and sharing your story with

us.

We always enjoy seeing the faces of our Members, New Members, Junior Members and Colony Friends, and sincerely hope that you can join us November 22 nd . I'll be passing out the 250 th U.S. Celebratory Pins to the Vietnam Era Veterans that contacted me earlier. Also, be sure to wear your 'Pilgrim Attire' if you have it. The more the merrier!

We've had a number of New Members approved recently and YOU would be a special addition. Come see what we're all about. I've already sent out the RSVP Invitation email, and more information is included in this issue of the 'The Pilgrim News'. See you soon!

*Sincerely Yours,  
Budd Leef, Governor,  
San Diego*



## America 250 Vietnam Service Pins Project

"We did it! Wow, and the GSMD has taken notice! **Our America 250 Committee** and state wide effort by individual colonies have made themselves known to all, to colonies, to the state and to the Mayflower Society in Plymouth. Be proud Colonies! A total of **695 pins** were delivered. That is a third the number of 2100 members. The pin count per colony are Mother



Lode 15, Orange County 50, Monterey Bay 50, Inland Empire 80, Redwood 15, Santa Barbara 70, Rancho Conejo 30, Foothill 50, Alameda 45, San Joaquin 55, Los Angeles 30, **San Diego 120**, Sequoia 40, and San Francisco 45.

The GSMD was pleasantly stunned by this total. Every Colony is receiving a Certificate of Appreciation from the America 250 Committee!"

*Ben Hobbins,  
St. America 250 Chair*

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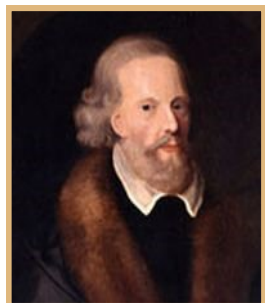
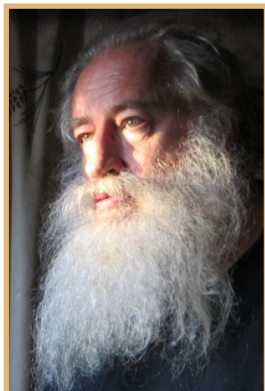
## November x, 2025 SD Colony Meeting Program

Neil Greenwood

Neil emigrated to America in 1976. His father and mother met in India in the foothills of the Himalayas. He was a physical training officer in the British army working with the Indian army, and would climb the nearby mountains during his time off. She was a missionary nurse who treated leprosy patients in that faraway place.

They met in the shadows of the highest mountains on Earth. Together they made a home in the north of England, and raised a family.

Neil was born a stone's throw from Wind-



sor Castle in a Canadian Red Cross Hospital built to treat the Casualties from the Great War. He grew up in Wordsworth country and attended John Ruskin High School. When he turned 18, he left England and travelled to the country of his mother's origin, America.

Neil is retired after a successful career building utilities infrastructure. He spends his time researching family history and tending a modest vineyard, making port wine.

His program will be: **Roots of Thomas Rogers: Mayflower Pilgrim**

During his genealogical research, Neil discovered Pilgrim Thomas Rog-

ers was one of his 10 th great-grandfathers. The General Society of Mayflower Descendants approved Neil's lineage to Thomas Rogers.

On a research trip during the cold winter of 2023, Neil travelled to Northamptonshire County. He was fortunate enough to make some brand- new discoveries. Neil had the privilege of funding the restoration and copying of a roll of Watford Manor Court records that had not been viewed for centuries. Those documents revealed that Thomas Rogers' father, William, was an Affeeror, a Constable, a Tithing man, and an important member of the Watford community. The old court records revealed many details of the lives of the Rogers' family. Images of some of these ancient documents are revealed in the presentation.

## Bread, Bread, Wonderful Bread

### Corn, Wheat, and Rye Bread

*"There is also very good Bread made of it [maize], by mixing half, or a third parte, more or less of Rye or Wheate-Meale, or Flower amongst it, and then they make it up into Loaves, adding Leaven or yeast to it to make it Rise."*

Letter of John Winthrop,  
July 29, 1662

Do you make Corn Bread stuffing, Wheat, Sourdough, French, or Brioche? Or is it rolls, a loaf, or bread pudding you have with the Thanksgiving meal? **Does**

**Tony Shalhoub have an episode about this?** Regardless, bread is always King, especially if you can't have it, This is probably the root of my love of bread, for many years I couldn't eat any! Thankfully that passed! and it turns out that the pilgrims were

quit advanced

### Ingredients:

2 cups water  
1 cup lukewarm beer  
4 teaspoons dry yeast  
1/2 teaspoon sugar  
4 cups all purpose flour, plus more for kneading  
2 cups rye flour



2 cups corn flour 1 1/2 tablespoons kosher salt

### To make the starter:

1. In a large bowl whisk together the beer, water, sugar and yeast. Allow the yeast to bloom

for several minutes, until it starts to foam.

2. Into the yeast mixture, stir in half of each of the flours: 2 cups all purpose, 1 cup rye, and 1 cup corn. Mix until a thick batter forms.

3. Cover the bowl tightly with plastic wrap, and set in a warm place to proof. Ideally, for best results, allow the starter to proof overnight. But if you're in a hurry, you can allow the starter to proof for as little as an hour.

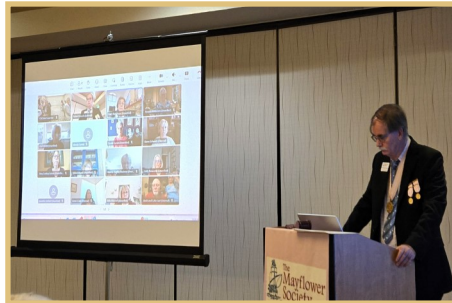
### To make the dough and bake:

1. Once your starter has proofed, stir in the remainder of the flours and the salt. Add in the flours by the handful and mix till combined. Do the same with the salt.  
*Continued on pg. 5*

## Much in Common by Sharon Gardner

I am a member of the San Diego Chapter, NSDAR who also enjoys membership in the San Diego Colony of Mayflower Descendants. I recently attended the State Mayflower Society meeting in San Francisco. I was surprised by the extent to which I was surrounded by DAR sisters.

The two organizations, share deep roots in America. The history of both organizations originates in the colonies of the northeastern United States, where our ancestors held strong religious and political beliefs. These forebearers were willing to risk their lives for their convictions, whether crossing the sea in search of religious freedom or fighting on the battlefield for independence.



CA State Governor, Robert Lincoln



Sharon and DAR friends at the SD History Center

The Pilgrims, who sailed on the Mayflower in 1620, sought to escape religious persecution and established self-governance through the Mayflower Compact. The Patriots, honored by the DAR, rebelled against British rule with the rallying cry of "No taxation without representation," ultimately giving birth to our sovereign nation and the Declaration of Independence.

The Pilgrims to Patriots project serves as a meaningful example of how our memberships can collaborate, bringing our organizations closer together. We are fostering a stronger connection and creating a combined legacy as we join to celebrate 250 years of heritage.

**Happy Birthday, America!**

## The 2026 California Mayflower Society Scholarship

### The Scholarship Announcement

The California Mayflower Society now awards four scholarships each year to qualified applicants:

- 1st Place \$5,500 scholarship,
- 2nd Place \$3,500 scholarship,
- 3rd Place \$2,500 scholarship
- 4th Place \$1,000 scholarship

### Requirements:

Completed application -Personal essay (not to exceed 500 words)  
Two letters of recommendation:  
Academic & Character

### Essay Prompt:

"Pilgrims and Native People: A Legacy of Encounter and Consequence"

Investigate the complex relationships between Mayflower settlers and indigenous communities.

### Eligibility:

High School Senior (academic year 2025-2026) who are descendants from a passenger on the Mayflower 1620.  
Scholarship applicants must be



Samoset & Pilgrims in 1621 book of illustration from 1853, Archives Photos/Getty Images

either a member of the California Mayflower Society or a descendant from a parent, grandparent, great grand parent, aunt, uncle, grand aunt, grand aunt, grand uncle, great grand aunt, or great grand uncle who is a living member of a California Mayflower Society Colony and resident in the State of California.

There are no restrictions regarding the state of residence of the scholarship applicant.

### To Apply:

Download and save both the [2025-2026 Scholarship Appli-](#)

[cation Instructions](#) and the [2025-2026 Scholarship Application Form](#). Everything you will need to prepare, format and submit your application is in these two documents.

### Deadline:

All application materials must be received no later than 11:59pm, Saturday, March 1, 2025. No late or incomplete applications will be accepted. If you have questions please send an email to State Scholarship Secretary, Billie Mitchell at [Bmitchellcsmd43@gmail.com](mailto:Bmitchellcsmd43@gmail.com)

### Submitting the Application:

For the electronic submissions, please email: State Scholarship Secretary, Billie Mitchell at: [Bmitchellcsmd43@gmail.com](mailto:Bmitchellcsmd43@gmail.com)  
For U.S. Mail submissions please send applications to:  
Mrs. Billie Mitchell  
State Scholarship Secretary  
California Mayflower Society  
26902 Highwood Circle  
Laguna Hills, CA 92653

## The Mayflower Compact in Brief

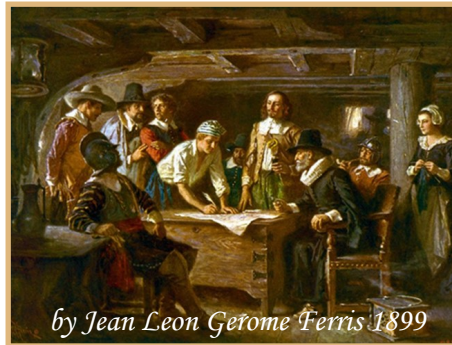
### The Beginning:

- Permission to settle in the Americas was obtained from the Company of Merchant Adventurers and was specific to the Colony of Virginia; the Mayflower was unable to sail that far south, and the Mayflower set anchor in Provincetown Harbor, in Massachusetts.
- The “strangers” (merchants, craftsmen, servants, etc) argued that the contract (and charter) they had signed did not apply outside of the Virginia Company territory, and thus there was no official government.
- A new set of rules for self-governance was quickly authored to ensure social order in the settlement, based on majority rule.

### Democracy in Action:

- Mayflower had 102 passengers – 50 men, 19 women and 33 young adults/children. Only 41 were Separatists/Pilgrims.
- 41 Adult male colonists—saints, strangers and indentured servants signed the “Agreement Between the Settlers of New Plymouth” begin-

ning with Governor **John Carver** and ending with Edward Lester. Nine adult males on board did not sign the document; some had been hired as seamen only for one year and others may have been too ill to write. No women signed it, in accordance with cultural and legal custom of the times.



### Basic Principles:

- Colonists remained loyal to King James
- Colonists would create laws & standards for the good of the Colony, and all would follow them
- All colonists would create one society and work together to further it
- Held that the people derived their right of self-government

from God, while not mentioning a specific church, or method of worship, leaving it open for acceptance by all

### Legacy:

- Expressed the idea of self-government for the first time in the New World.
- Finally, as the first written constitution in the New World, the Mayflower Compact laid the foundations for two other revolutionary documents: the Declaration of Independence, which stated that governments derive their powers “from the consent of the governed,” and the Constitution.
- In 1802, speaking at Plymouth, the future president John Quincy Adams underscored the lasting importance of the agreement signed aboard the Mayflower more than 180 years earlier, calling it “perhaps the only instance, in human history, of that positive, original social compact, which speculative philosophers have imagined as the only legitimate source of government.”

*A big thank you to our member Mary Celine Scott for her work in this article!*

## The Mayflower Compact Text

*In the name of God, Amen. We, whose names are underwritten, the Loyal Subjects of our dread Sovereign Lord King James, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, defender of the Faith, etc.:*

*Having undertaken, for the Glory of God, and advancements of the Christian faith, and the honor of our King and Country, a voyage to plant the first colony in the Northern parts of Virginia; do by these presents, solemnly and mutually, in the presence of God, and one another; covenant and combine ourselves together*



*Bas-relief on Bradford St. in Provincetown*

*into a civil body politic; for our better ordering, and preservation and furtherance of the ends aforesaid; and by virtue hereof to enact, constitute, and frame, such*

*just and equal laws, ordinances, acts, constitutions, and offices, from time to time, as shall be thought most meet*

*and convenient for the general good of the colony; unto which we promise all due submission and obedience.*

*In witness whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names at Cape Cod the 11th of November, in the year of the reign of our dread Sovereign Lord King James, of England, France, and Ireland, the eighteenth, and of Scotland the fifty-fourth, 1620.*

## Bread, Continued from page 2

2. When the dough becomes too thick to continue mixing with a spoon, use your hands to finish bringing it together into a cohesive dough. If the dough seems too dry, add in a few drops of water as needed.
3. Transfer the dough from the bowl to a floured work surface. The dough will be stiff, but continue to knead until smooth.
4. When the dough is no longer sticky, gently poke it with your finger. If the dough shows a slight indent, but still bounces back some, it's ready. Put the dough in a clean bowl, and cover with plastic wrap. Let the dough rise for one hour.
5. After the dough has risen, un-



- cover it and firmly punch it back towards the bottom of the bowl. Re-cover the dough, and allow it to rise for another 45 minutes.
6. Turn the dough back out onto your floured surface. Divide the dough in half, and then fashion each half into a smooth, round loaf about 6 inches across. Place the loaves on an ungreased baking sheet, keeping at least several inches distance between them so they are not touching.
7. Allow the loaves to rest while

you preheat the oven to 400 degrees. Immediately before you put the loaves in the oven, quickly prick each of them several times with a knife on the top. The pricks shouldn't be too deep or too large, otherwise your loaves will split open as they bake.

8. Place the baking sheet with the loaves on the middle rack of your oven. Bake the loaves for about an hour to an hour and 10 minutes, or until they are a light golden brown. You can test the doneness of your loaves by knocking on the bottom – when finished, they will make a hollow sound. Transfer the loaves to a rack and allow them to cool completely. Will you try it?

*Courtesy of the Mayflower Society*

## Thanksgiving as You've Never Imagined

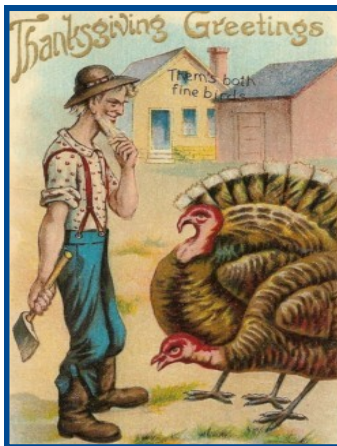


*"Here's to a Jolly Feast with Thanksgiving greetings"* Who thought of this, is she part of dinner?

*"Thanks to Him who spared my living. For I am a victim of Thanksgiving"- Really!*



*This speaks for itself! He has to drive himself to the kitchen. I believe I'll just have pumpkin pie!*



*"Thanksgiving Greetings"* What a way to meet and greet!

Dear Pilgrim Cousins

I am of course, a Mayflower Descendant. I have an ancestor, who wrote the *The Puritan Manuscripts*, and a grandmother who was a genealogist. I started this page out to write more about family traditions like food, football, the Macy's Parade, and Miracle on 34th Street. It is difficult to find something new to say each year about the Compact and the first Thanksgiving.

I became fascinated by the **strange Victorian cards** I was seeing while looking for images to assist and inspire me. So, I decided to have a bit of fun. Here they



*"Thanksgiving Remembrance"* OH, where am I...are those wings?

# Meeting Photos



The Mayflower Society  
General Society of Mayflower Descendants®



The Mayflower Society  
General Society of Mayflower Descendants®



**San Diego Colony  
Executive Board  
2024-2026**

**Governor**

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sdcolonygov2024@gmail.com  
sandiegomayflower.org

**Deputy Governor**

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jjca@aol.com

**Secretary**

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**Treasurer**

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cleddyfamily@gmail.com

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**Elder**

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Kathy Loftman  
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renee.neale3@gmail.com

**Web Master**

William "Budd" Leef  
dustyleef@hotmail.com

**Colony Delegate**

Gail Raser  
Mayflowersandiego  
@gmail.com

**Decorations Chair**

None

**Education Chair**

Amy Conboy  
conboyamy@gmail.com

**Parliamentarian**

Judith Reale

**Hospitality Chair**

June Carter Starmorn  
starmorn@outlook.com

**Do You Need a Badge**

As members, we proudly display our names and the name of our Pilgrim Ancestor.

If you are a new member, a Mayflower Friend, or just need a new badge, follow these steps:

Contact June Carter at [starmorn@outlook.com](mailto:starmorn@outlook.com)

Include your name, your Ancestor's name, or names. They must be from an application or supplemental that has been verified by Plymouth. If you have several lines of ancestors, please check with June about a possible price increase.

Pay at a meeting or send your check for \$14.00 made payable to, "SD Colony of Mayflower Descendants" to:

**Connie Bloodworth  
1005 Norte Vista  
San Marcos, CA 92078**



**Congratulations to our New Members!**



- |                      |                  |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Deborah Isacksen     | George Soule     |
| Ann Irving           | John Alden       |
| Joel Bryant          | William Bradford |
| Elliot Page          | John Howland     |
| William James        | John Howland     |
| Lantz Blake Ellis    | John Alden       |
| Lantz Clifford Ellis | John Alden       |
| Matthew Lahana       | Edward Doty      |

**California Mayflower Juniors Report**

*From the Fall Quarterly Magazine*

Dear Junior sponsors and parents,  
Colony Compact Day meetings are coming up soon. Please bring your Junior to this special meeting. It is a great way to introduce the next generation to their Mayflower heritage. Be sure to let your colony governor know if you will be bringing younger children.

*Amy Conboy Juniors Membership Chair California  
Mayflower Society Juniors Committee, GSMD*

**California  
Mayflower Society**

**MAINTAIN YOUR  
MEMBERSHIP!**

**DUES COLLECTION  
SEASON FOR 2026 BE-  
GAN ON OCTOBER 1,  
2025 AND ENDS ON  
DECEMBER 30, 2025.**

(NOTE: Newly approved members to the CA Mayflower Society will be considered paid for the next year's dues if approved on or after July 1st of any given year.)

The California State Society will send an invoice by email to your address in our records. Paper invoices will be sent ONLY to those members with NO email address. Please update your preferred email address with us well before October 1st, so you do not miss the invoice.

So, please look for your invoice starting from October 1, 2025

The invoices give instructions to pay online or by check.

